

Command

ISSUE #8

AUGUST 1976

As you can see, COMMAND has gone to ditto. Offset printing was nice, but expensive; in Virginia I was able to get 100 pages printed for a price that was only losing me a few dollars an issue. After a frantic two-week search, issue #7 was printed at a 54% increase. Rather than raise my sub rates (they are already higher than most) I decided to invest in a ditto machine. This new format will allow me to publish every three weeks; issue #10 will come out three weeks after #9. Those games with Canadian players will probably still be run on monthly deadlines. More about this later.

The postcard notification of Winter builds has been a huge flop. 1975IV was the only game in which it worked. The biggest problem, apparently, is the slower mail service between the United States and Canada. In 1976F, I decided to extend the deadline when the Canadian player missed his builds. In 1976G, I had to replace one of the players whose sub had run out (he later resubscribed and is still in the game) and felt that more time was needed for negotiations. In 1976V a post office mix-up and a player's request for an extension were the reasons for the mix-up in the deadlines. Also in that game I incorrectly accepted two builds from Turkey who was only entitled to one. Finally, in 1976BT, both the Canadian players in the game missed the turn, leading me to believe the fault lay with the postal service and not the players.

I have had a request to run a section of Gibraltar II, the Diplomacy variant that was published in the latest issue of Diplomacy World (Vol. 3 No. 2). If interested let me know- send no money at this time. Diplomacy World is available from Walt Buchanan, RR #3, Box 324, Lebanon, Indiana 46052 for \$4.00/year (4 issues). I will not reprint the rules and map here. (DW is highly recommended even if you are not interested in the variant).

I have had eight responses to my request for stand-by players for Diplomacy; I can always use more. At present the stand-by list is: Grabar, Cook, Blank, Luchs, Acheson, Mitchell, Fabry, and Johnston. As of 7/19/76 there are 49 subscribers to COMMAND. I also trade with 15 other zines: Everything, Impassable, Diplomacy World, Libertarian, Centurion, Dynasty, St. George and the Dragon, Speculum, Runestone, Erehwon, Stab, Ruritania, The Diplomatic Journal, Tetracuspis, and Quendi Khazad Dum.

The U.S. Postal Service has announced the possibility of another postage increase, probably 16¢ or 17¢ for first class postage by the beginning of 1977. I would like to issue a request to the officers of the IDA to appoint a committee to look into the possibility of lobbying against the increase and for return of government subsidy to our mail services. I would also like to urge all other publishers to band together in this effort. Another increase is a very serious threat to our postal hobby. It is

Adam Gruen's DYNASTY has merged with Robert Goldman's THE MORAVIAN GAZETTE. The new zine will be called MORAVIAN DYNASTY. Each issue will be published by one editor on an alternating basis, and will be 12 pages long. Subs will go for

1927-1928
F. C. Green, Jr., 1927-1928
Combs - Geo. Green, 1927-1928
Barrison, New York 1928
1927-1928
COMB

Winter 1904

England build A Edin. A London

France build A Marseilles

Austria remove A Greece

Turkey build F Con, F Ank, F Smy

Spring 1905

England
(Kinsfather)

F Denmark to Baltic
F Seden S F Den to Bal
F St. Petersburg (HC) holds
A Kiel S FRENCH A Bur to
Munich
A London to Denmark
F North Sea C A Lon to Den
F Irish to North Atlantic
A Edinburgh holds
A Holland S A Kiel

France
(Granville)

F West Med to Mid-Atl
F Tunis holds
A Gascony holds
A Picardy to Belgium
A Burgandy to Munich
A Ruhr S A Bur to Mun
A Marseilles to Piedmont

Italy A Munich to Silesia
(Mathias) A Albania to Trieste
A Tyrolia S A Alb to Tri
F Tyrrhenian to Ionian
F Naples S F Tyrr to Ion

Austria F Apulia to Venice
(Marino)

<u>Russia</u>	F Baltic hold*	NEAR
(Hunter)	F Berlin holds	
	A Budapest holds	
	F Black Sea holds	
	* retreat OTB	

Turkey A Tri S Rus A Bud to Vie
(Happel) A Serbia S A Trieste
F Ionian to Adriatic
A Sevastopol to Moscow
F Rumania holds
F Con to Bulgaria (SC)
F Stryna to Aegean
F Agnara to Constant

PRESS

(Paris) Let the fate of Germany be a warning to those contemplating actions that would incur our Emperor's wrath.

(London to Apulia) In answer to your request, the King had these words of wisdom to offer, "who... where... when?"

(Smyrna AP) Sultan Pascha has vanished. Details of this occurrence are whimsically portrayed in a newsreel which follows a quadruple feature at the Red Lion Cinema. The second film, "The ~~XXXXXX~~ Velvet Vampire of Trstnk" has drawn passable reviews.

(Smyrna Reuters) Sultana Myrna has quietly assumed control of the Ottoman Empire and has declared a new social order. The nation has been renamed the People's Empirical Democracy of Turkey, and it is truly a classless society judging from Myrna's newly appointed second-in-power, Anjar Kratiles, who picks his teeth with a scimitar.

Incidentally, Mr. Kratiles has persuaded Myrna to place her naval resources at his disposal in order for him to make advances in the Mediterranean Sea. The happy couple sets sail tomorrow.

Will moves due 8/20/76

1975IW COM2

Autumn 1903

Germany A Warsaw retreats to Prussia

Spring 1904 has been postponed to
8/20/76

1976F COM4

Winter 1902

England build A London
(Kerins)

Germany remove A Gascony
(Bumpas) A Burgundy

~~Italy~~ no builds received
(Lagimoniere) will play 2 short

Turkey GM removes F Aegean
(~~Walter~~)
(C.D.)

Austria build A Vienna (1 short)
(Anderson)

Russia build F Sevastopol
(Young)

Will: Rolf Luchs please submit
stand-by orders for Italy

PRESS

ENGLAND AT PEACE WITH FRANCE

(London) The new French government was warmly welcomed in London today. It is hoped that within the year our fighting forces can be withdrawn and used elsewhere against our foes.

England further believes that it is in the national interest if the French give aid to Austria against Italy in return for that wonderful city of Munich.

(Yorkshire) It was reported today that the French have finally been able to form a strong, stable government. The 1st announcement was that payment would be exacted from the German nation for its' invasion of French soil.

The British government responded immediately by offering a disengagement of forces and strong financial and material aid in the war against Germany. Further, England recognizes the French right to German territory and warns others that movement to prevent French occupation could result in war.

Spring 1903 due 8/20/76

XIX 1976G COM5

In a separate announcement I replaced the English player in this game. He has since written to me and announced his intentions to continue in the game. Therefore, England is still being played by Larry VandenBos. Will Bob Fabry please continue to submit standy-by orders for England.

19768 Winter 1902

England build F London
(VandenBos)

France build A Paris
(Anderson)

Italy build F Naples
(Kerins) F Rome
A Venice

Turkey build A Constantinople
(Young) A Ankara

PRESS

~~XX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

(Rome) The Italian Head Mancho will never give up his claim to Marseilles or Iberia. The new ruler of France had best beware of any movement into the Mediterranean area as this is the Italian sphere of influence. At present his Manchoness said that his armies will be elsewhere seeking easier game in Trieste and thereabouts. But his warning to all northern powers still stands. No one is to enter the Mediterranean under any circumstances.

Spring 1903 due 8/20/76

COM7 U.S. Diplomacy

Winter 2002

Yellow build A Georgia
A Alabama

Green build A South Dakota
A Iowa

White build A Vermont

Spring 2003

Yellow Georgia to North Carolina
(Kerins) Ohio to West Virginia
Tennessee to Kentucky
Alabama to Tennessee
Mississippi to Louisiana
Virginia to Maryland

Green A Wisconsin S A Iowa to Ill
(DeCook) Iowa to Illinois
South Dakota to Wyoming
Montana S S.D. to Wyo

North Dakota S S.D. to Wyoming
Nebraska S S.D. to Wyoming

Red Idaho S A Wyoming
(Lowery) Wyoming holds* ret to Utah
Utah to Colorado
Oklahoma to Arkansas
Texas S Oklahoma to Ark

Blue New Jersey to Pennsylvania
(Lebens) Delaware to Virginia
Kentucky S Del to Virginia

White Maine to New Hampshire
(Mathias) Mass to New York
Conn S Mass to New York
Vermont S Mass to N.Y.
New York to New Jersey

Black A Louisiana holds NMR
(Hunter) Arkansas holds* ret OTB

COA. Michael Lowery
2409 Oakland Ave.
Nashville, Tenn. 37212

PRESS

(New York) The Mystic Mage revealed today that the purpose of the pilgrimage to New Jersey is to recover the artifacts and remains of a former publisher reputed to have temporarily resided there. The mysterious publisher printed several short tomes containing HIGH SECRETS of elementary control which would be dangerous in unskilled hands.

(Sacred Blue Lake) The United Red Nations Command is pleased to note the end of Blue's internal difficulties and the bravado of the new government. Our peoples admire courage even in fools; and we hold the insane to be sacred, both blessed and cursed by the spirits. We do not, however, appreciate any ridicule of our religious beliefs. We are distressed by the growth of the Green pustulence, which is reaching a size menacing to all nations, Native and Invaders alike.

(Philadelphia) As the official minister to foreign embassies, I am pleased to announce the election of Heracio Norbet Mumty to the ~~XXXX~~ President of the United States of America.

...to the office of Vice Pres. Asked to comment on the current situation, Mr. Pithering stated: "Due to the fact that my colleague has requested my silence on any matter of state, I can not comment at this, or any other time on the matter." Asked why the Pres. requested his silence, his answer was simple, "I've been color-blind since birth." Mr. Pithering did announce that Mr. Humty has begun serious negotiations with the Northern States, in order to reinstate them into the Union.

Fall 2003 due 8/20/76

1976 F COM4

These stencils are starting to get to me and my typing is starting to deteriorate! I apologize for the decline in the quality of the printing in this issue.

I neglected to list the Autumn retreats for Russia in this game.

Autumn 1902

Russia A Rumania ret to Ukraina
(Young) A Smyrna ret to Armenia

COM9 Nuclear Destruction

Turn 2 PRESS

(London) As an economy move, Her Majesty has decided to withdraw her forces from, and bestow independence upon, her colonies, the USA, India, and Canada. There is no, repeat, no plan to devalue the pound.

(Bombay) For the first time in Indian history the Indian secret service is conducting a census. A usually reliable source claims the official census has discovered a sudden drop in population to 60 million people. The secret service, in looking for a source of the mass murder of hundreds of million people around the world has discovered clues which lead to

...the Indian secret service has been promised the full support of the CIA and KGB and will move to quietly eliminate this subversive.

(North Pole) This Joint Communique hopes Russia's fireworks get blown up by a terrorist group three days before the May Day celebration, Mrs. Ghandi's cows get the Bubonic plague, and Italy and allies can't send their missiles due to lack of gunpowder and wicks because Russia uses the world's supply for her fireworks, while we hope also that China's 300 million ~~people~~ "boorish" people go on strike because India has all their "hamburgers."

From: Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny and the tooth fairy

TURN 3 PRESS

(Ottawa, UPI) It was hinted today by a high level Canadian official that a new compromise is in the offing over Taiwan's participation in the Montreal Olympics. The official said that the Canadian government may allow the playing of the Nationalist Chinese anthem if the Chinese team enters only one event, the javelin catch.

What the reaction of Taiwan would be to this newest proposal is as yet uncertain, but it is expected that the Polish government would object because at this late date their's is the only team entered in the javelin catch and they would win a gold medal by default if Taiwan did not enter.

(Brazil) The President of Brazil announced today that he is most pleased that England and Germany have taken an interest in Brazil's economic growth.

(USSR) The new Minister of Industrial Development in his acceptance speech outlined how he would not make the mistakes of his predecessor.

(Geneva) This paper's Geneva correspondent reports that the

the resumption of diplomatic relations. Information from high circles tends to confirm rumors that the Soviets are receptive to the moves of the Americans.

(London) As a further economy move, Her Majesty has decided to close down all overseas bases except for Gibraltar. However, there is no truth to the rumor of any further devaluation of the pound.

(Peking) After granting the gamemaster a two week period in which to instate the People's Republic of China into the game in her rightful place as a major power, we are now making our final demand. This is to be considered an ultimatum.

(Buenos Aires) In a ceremony held here today a high official (un-named) of the American city of Newark, N.J. signed an agreement to designate Newark as the world's dumping grounds for unwanted hydrogen bombs. The entire city is being floated on an enormous barge off the coast of Greenland in order to protect the rest of the nation. It has been rumored that the city official was granted diplomatic immunity shortly after the signing.

(Paris)
Reprinted from the Paris Tribune
In an interview with Monsieur Le President, we have been extremely fortunate to obtain the following information.

"Monsieur, what is our present state of relation with Germany?"

"~~Max~~ It is with remorseful shagrin that I report our present relations with Germany are non-existent. We had hoped, by requesting the presence of the German foreign minister in Paris, that we could formally greet the Republic of Germany, and begin meaningful negotiations. But we have heard nothing from him."

"Have you tried to contact the German government directly?"

"Yes, but the German government is best we could do was to talk to a Rhineland peasant, who didn't even realize that the German lands had been united in one government. Our spies suspect that the German President is hiding somewhere in the Swiss Alps, but that is mere heresay."

"But you failed in contacting him?"

"Is it my fault that that stupid Flemish farmer shot down my carrier pigeon?"

"You used carrier pigeons!!!!"

"In these economically troubled times, can you expect us to employ a pony and rider?!!!"

"What are your plans for the future then?"

"Until such time as another communique seeps across the Ruhr, we will continue to negotiate with our friends across the sea."

(Tel Aviv) Left defenseless by our American friends, and shunned by the Gamemaster, we now have no choice except to burn down three more Lebanese villages.

(Cairo) Faced with imminent Zionist aggression, the Arab world must carry on with its scientific efforts to borrow an H-bomb from somebody.

Turn 4 due 7/31/76

1976V COM10

Winter 1901

Germany build A Munich
(Beyma) F Kiel

Italy build F Rome
(Schultz)

Austria build A Vienna
(Spiegel) A Trieste

Russia build F Sevastopol
(Watson) F St. Petersburg(NC)

Turkey build A Smyrna*
(DeCook) F Ankara*

The Turkish re-adjustment is due as soon as possible. As soon as I have it I will notify all by postcard. Spring 1902 will then be due on 8/20/76. Let's get this game back on the track! (Spring moves are on file for all countries; Turkey's moves are defective due to the extra builds.)

Note: all non-trader players in 1976V will have their subs extended one issue further due to the large number of delays; this is in addition to the extension mentioned in the postcard builds.

1976BT COM12

Winter 1901

England build F London
(Mathias)

France build F Marseilles
(Acheson) A Paris

Germany build F Kiel
(Blanch) A Berlin
A Munich

Italy build F Naples
(Grabar) F Rome

Austria build A Budapest
(Cook)

Russia no builds received
(Lagimaniere) will play 1 short

Turkey build A Ankara
(Edmonds) F Smyrna

Russian F Rumania ret to Sevast

Will: BoB Fabry
8034 N. Oak
Niles, Ill. 60648
please submit stand-by orders
for Russia.

Spring 1902 due 8/20/76

COA COM12

David Grabar
1080 Mc Laughlin St.
Richmond, CA 94805

1976DD COM13

Spring 1901

England A Liverpool to Yorkshire
(Lebens) F Edinburgh to North Sea
F London to English Channel

France F Brest to Mid-Atlantic
(Fabry) A Paris to Burgundy
~~A Marseilles to~~ Piedmont

Germany A Berlin to Kiel
(DeCook) A Munich to Ruhr
F Kiel to Denmark

Italy A Venice to Piedmont
(Luchs) A Rome to Venice
F Naples to Ionian

Austria F Trieste to Albania
(Bowman) A Budapest to Serbia
A Vienna to Trieste

Russia F St. Petersburg(SC) TO Both
(Johnston) A Warsaw to Ukraina
F Sevastopol to Rumania
A Moscow to Ukraina

Turkey F Ankara to Black Sea
(Silko) A Constantinople to Bulg
A Smyrna to Constantinople

~~PRESS~~ underlined moves fail

PRESS

(Paris) TO Rome, move to Piedmont simply to keep peace.

(Rome) The Great Italian Republic declares war upon barbaric Germany. All other countries that produce or consume large amounts of beer will be considered enemies of Italy.

(Naples) The Italian fishing fleet set sail today, heading far south. A rich catch is expected on the African coast.

(London) I, Stephen II, King of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and all her colonies and possessions, Emperor of India, Lord Chancellor of Parliament, Protector of the Faith, Duke of York and Gloucester, publicly denounce the German kingdom,

house the Italian King of pro-
nounced indifference to my pleas
for recognition, and proclaim the
sovereign alliance of England-
France and Russia to be as sound as
ever.

Fall 1901 due 8/20/76

NEW GAME COM16 1976??

England Tom Johnston
330 North Elmer
Griffith, Indiana 46319

France Andy Cook
807 Crescent Dr.
Alexandria, Va. 22302

Germany Arnold J. Trembly
6460 Hancock
St. Louis, Mo. 63139

Italy Russel VieBrooks, Jr.
824 Franklin St.
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Austria Rolf Luchs
635 Gunderson dr.
Apt. 107
Carol Stream, Ill. 60187

Russia ~~Richard Marcoll~~
Bill Stone
302 Neil St.
Blacksburg, Va. 24060

Turkey Bob Fabry
8034 N. Ozark
Niles, Illinois 60648

Spring 1901 due ~~after~~ 8/20/76
unless someone asks for an extension

The following people have either
entered a Diplomacy game or ex-
pressed interest in entering my next
game. Please send me your pre-
ference list for country and your
game fee (those who have already p
paid are followed by a *). I
will start the game as soon as I
have heard from seven people. The
~~xxxxxx~~ the others will be put
in the next section. Those paid
in advance are guaranteed a spot.

M. Edmonds*, V. Gale*, R. Acheson,
B. Farrell*, D. Ditter, F. McIlvaine,
S. Johnson, M. Sarch,

..... at least three other
people at Origins II who asked for
position, but I don't have their
names.

GAME OPENINGS

Diplomacy I always have openings
in regular Diplomacy.

Nuclear Destruction 4 definitely
entered; I am going to run this game
for \$1.00 plus postage (Mr. K. - I
owe you \$1.50)

Blitzkrieg entered: Grabar, Kinsfather.
Need at least two more to play.

Origins + Bourse entered: Vie Brooks,
Blank, Trembly. Need 2 more to start.
Preference lists for countries
accepted. This game will use the
"Blind" rules. Bourse is open to
all subscribers whether players or
not for \$1.00.

Wooden Ships & Iron Men entered Blank,
Kinsfather, Luchs, Brooks(?),
Vie Brooks(?).

COMMAND POST by Bill Stone

This issue marks the semi-
official debut of my semi-popular
column, COMMAND POST. As often as
two out of three issues, I'll be
taking a look at various aspects of
wargaming as industry and as a hobby,
bringing you my personal opinions
and viewpoints..... many of which
have little or no basis in reality
(see below). From games to personal
to conventions and tournaments, I'll
be commenting on the 'soft' side of
gaming as opposed to the "hard"
nitty gritty of strategy and tactics
of play (!!!). In the interests of
broadening the scope of COMMAND to
cover the full spectrum of "strategic
gaming" as we had originally planned,
Dennis and I have agreed that CP will
concentrate on matters other than
Diplomacy, which is already thoroughly
covered in these pages (!!!). Now
that I am aggin in a position to
devote some time and energy to COMMAND,
I am looking forward to a re-newed
association with those of you I have
previously known, and to meeting more
of you.

Today again, let's jump in to this month's topic...

For some time Dennis and I have considered the formation of a game publishing company to complement COMMAND. Unfortunately, most of the game-able battles have been snapped up by the larger, more established companies. That leaves us in the position of innovators, of "daring to be great" by approaching old battles with new techniques and tackling battles that no one else has had the courage to cover. Thus, Bottom of the Barrel Game Publishers proudly present an introduction to some games that are currently in preparation.

For WWI buffs, Bottom of the Barrel will be releasing several sequels to Avalon Hill's 1914 game. Titled 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918, each game features the same units in the same positions on the same mapboard.

The ultimate for the East Front gamers will be ALLZUVIEL ("Too Much") featuring the entire front from Murmansk to the Caspian Sea and Trans-Caucasus at company/platoon level. With several square miles of maps and hundreds of thousands of unit counters, the selling price will be rivaled only by the shipping charges. If "Too Much" meets with success, BOTB has plans for an ultimate follow-up, VIEL ALLZUVIEL ("Much Too Much") This will recreate the entire Russian campaign at man-to-man level. Preliminary negotiations are underway for purchase of the entire USSR west of the Urals as the playing board.

One of the heavies at the local gaming club, Carl (Mr. Management) Weiss, has suggested an idea for an introductory game, STRIKE FORCE ZERO. Designed for the beginner, all the rules are optional. Game components include one unit counter, a one-hex mapboard, and one randomizer chit. We have promised Carl a suitable share of the royalties.

NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST will be BOTB's game of the atomic age, also designed for the novice. Each player rolls one die once to determine the number of people in his country who survive simultaneous pre-emptive nuclear strikes. The person with the higher roll wins.

Science-fiction fans will enjoy T_RID. This involves US Army units which are transported from WW II to a pre-historic age through a time-warp. The game is very similar in play to PanzerBlitz/PanzerLeader, with each type of dinosaur having its own characteristic "Z" read-out. Special weapons effects include Brontosaurus farts, air support by Pterodactyls and minefields of dinosaur meadow muffins.

Please send checks for advance orders to me rather than Dennis.

So much for that. Upcoming features include more from BOTB, another Russian defense for Stalin-grad, and I'll be reporting (along with everyone else, I suppose) from Origins II/DipCen IX in Baltimore. I welcome comments and suggestions on this and future columns. Those of you who wish to berate me, etc., may do so by writing to 302 Neil St., Blacksburg, Va. 24060.

Thomas Reape Wins DipCen

Finishing strong with a 14 center Turkey, Thomas Reape won the annual DipCen with 56 tournament points. Bill Stone was second with 55 tournament points.

Trophies were also given for the best play with each country. In the event of a tie the player with the most tournament points was awarded the trophy. (Each board played to the end of 1908 or to a pre-designated time deadline; 1 point was awarded for each center held at the end of the game, plus 1 pt. for each player who did not do as well in the round playing the same country (for a tie)) there was also a five point penalty for allowing a player on your board to win.)

BEST COUNTRY AWARDS:

<u>England</u>	Matthias Maskaleris (16)
<u>France</u>	E. Gross (11) also Power, Simmons, Yorkey
<u>Germany</u>	Sergeant (13)
<u>Italy</u>	B. Stone (16)
<u>Austria</u>	Matthews (17)
<u>Russia</u>	Rieffe (13) also W. Blank
<u>Turkey</u>	Mathias (14) also Reape

COMMAND is published monthly by:

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Subscriptions are ~~\$xx~~ \$4.00 for 12 issues
Game fees are \$2.50 plus sub unless otherwise indicated
See page 8 for game openings



From: D. AGOSTA
9 Finlay Pl.
Newark, N.J. 07106

TO: Rod Walker
1273 Crest Dr.
Encinitas, CA 92024

your sub ends with
issue # T?

SEE PAGE(S) _____

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE